

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8 **UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**
9 **SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**
10

11 UNITED STATES,

12 Plaintiff,

13
14 vs.

15 HUMARO MARQUEZ SILVA,

16 Defendant.
17

CASE NO. 10cr4287-MMA

[Related Civil Case No. 11cv3049-MMA]

**ORDER DENYING DEFENDANT'S
MOTION FOR REDUCTION OF
TIME IN CUSTODY PURSUANT TO
28 U.S.C. § 2255**

[Doc. No. 36]

18 Defendant Humaro Marquez Silva has filed a pre-typed, form motion, requesting the Court
19 reduce his time in federal custody pursuant to Title 28 of the United States Code, section 2255,
20 arguing that (1) his imprisonment time is harsher as a non-citizen in violation of his constitutional
21 rights, and (2) a 1995 United States Attorney General Memorandum allows a one to two level
22 downward departure from the applicable guideline sentencing range in return for an alien's
23 concession of deportability and agreement to accept a final order of deportation. For the following
24 reasons, the Court **DENIES** the motion.

25 **DISCUSSION**

26 On January 11, 2011, without the benefit of a written agreement, Defendant pleaded guilty to
27 Count I of a one count Indictment charging him with being a deported alien found in the United
28 States in violation of Title 8 of the United States Code, section 1326(a), (b). *See* Doc. No. 11. Prior

1 to sentencing, Defendant execute a signed waiver of his right to appeal or collaterally attack his
2 sentence. *See* Doc. No. 34. The Court sentenced Defendant on December 19, 2011, to 33 months
3 imprisonment, 3 years of supervised release, and a \$100 special assessment. *See Judgment*, Doc.
4 No. 35.

5 Title 28 of the United States Code, section 2255 provides that if a defendant's motion, file,
6 and records "conclusively show that the movant is entitled to no relief" the court summarily may
7 dismiss the motion without sending it to the United States Attorney for response. *See* 28 U.S.C. §
8 2255(b). The rules regarding section 2255 proceedings similarly state that the court summarily may
9 order dismissal of a 2255 motion without service upon the United States Attorney only "[i]f it
10 plainly appears from the face of the motion, any attached exhibits, and the record of prior
11 proceedings that the moving party is not entitled to relief . . .". Rule 4(a), RULES-SECTION 2255
12 PROCEEDINGS (West 2009).¹ Thus, when a movant fails to state a claim upon which relief can be
13 granted, or when the motion is incredible or patently frivolous, the district court may summarily
14 dismiss the motion. *Cf. United States v. Burrows*, 872 F.2d 915, 917 (9th Cir. 1989); *Marrow v.*
15 *United States*, 772 F.2d 525, 526 (9th Cir. 1985).

16 A defendant may waive his right to file a section 2255 motion to challenge his sentence, but
17 such a waiver must state so expressly. *United States v. Nunez*, 223 F.3d 956, 959 (9th Cir. 2000).
18 However, a defendant may not waive an ineffective assistance of counsel claim challenging the
19 knowing and voluntary nature of the plea agreement or the voluntariness of the waiver itself. *United*
20 *States v. Jeronimo*, 398 F.3d 1149, 1156 n. 4 (9th Cir. 2005). Here, Defendant's stipulated
21 sentencing agreement states in pertinent part:

22 In exchange for the Government's concessions in this agreement, Defendant
23 waives, to the full extent of the law, any right to appeal or collaterally attack the
24 conviction and any lawful restitution order. Defendant also waives, to the full
25 extent of the law, any right to appeal or collaterally attack his sentence, unless the
Court imposes a custodial sentence above the high end of the guideline range
recommended by the Government pursuant to this agreement at the time of

26 ¹ Similarly, a court deciding a motion under 28 U.S.C. § 2255 is not required to hold an evidentiary hearing if "the
27 motion and the files and records of the case conclusively show that the prisoner is entitled to no relief." 28 U.S.C. § 2255(b).
28 "Mere conclusory statements by the petitioner do not justify a hearing." *Baumann v. United States*, 692 F.2d 565, 571 (1982).
Instead, a petitioner must make "specific factual allegations which, if true, would entitle him to relief." *Id.* As discussed
below, Petitioner has failed to allege sufficient facts showing a possible right to relief. Therefore, an evidentiary hearing is
not warranted in this case.

1 sentencing or statutory mandatory minimum term, if applicable.
2 See Doc. No. 34, 2-3. The Ninth Circuit approves of such waivers on public policy grounds,
3 reasoning that finality is “perhaps the most important benefit of plea bargaining.” *United States v.*
4 *Navarro-Botello*, 912 F.2d 318, 322 (9th Cir. 1990). Courts will generally enforce a defendant’s
5 waiver of his right to appeal if: (1) “the language of the waiver encompasses the defendant’s right to
6 appeal on the grounds claimed on appeal,” and (2) “the waiver is knowingly and voluntarily made.”
7 *United States v. Martinez*, 143 F.3d 1266, 1270-71 (9th Cir. 1998). The Court concludes that both
8 of these requirements are met in this case. Accordingly, Defendant’s motion is barred and must be
9 dismissed because of his waiver.

10 Even if Defendant had not waived his right to attack his conviction and sentence,
11 Defendant’s motion would fail on the merits. Defendant argues that, as a result of his deportable
12 alien status, he has been unable to participate in programs that would entitle him to early release in
13 violation of the Equal Protection Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment. The Ninth Circuit Court of
14 Appeals rejected this argument in *McLean v. Crabtree*, 173 F.3d 1176 (9th Cir. 1999). There, the
15 court held, “[E]xcluding prisoners with detainers from participating in community-based treatment
16 programs, and consequently from sentence reduction eligibility, is at least rationally related to the
17 BOP’s legitimate interest in preventing prisoners from fleeing detainers while participating in
18 community treatment programs.” *Id.* at 1176. Additionally, Defendant’s argument that the Court
19 could depart downward because he is a deportable alien is precluded by statute and current Ninth
20 Circuit case law. By statute, the Court may depart downward only if there are “aggravating or
21 mitigating circumstances . . . not adequately taken into consideration by the Sentencing
22 Commission.” 18 U.S.C. § 3553(b). Specifically, the Ninth Circuit has held that the threat of
23 deportation is not a factor that the district court may consider for sentencing purposes. *United States*
24 *v. Alvarez-Cardenas*, 902 F.2d 734, 737 (9th Cir. 1990).

25 ///

26 ///

27 ///

28 ///


1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28

CONCLUSION

Based on the foregoing reasons, the Court **DENIES** Defendant's motion for reduction of time in custody.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

DATED: January 12, 2012

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Michael M. Anello", written over a horizontal line.

Hon. Michael M. Anello
United States District Judge